

The Knoxville Whig.

BROWNLOW, HAWES & CO., Publishers.



"The union of lakes—the union of lands—
The union of States—none can sever—
The union of hearts—the union of hands—
And the flag of our Union forever."

Knoxville, Tenn., July 12, 1865.

Our Paper to be Enlarged.

The materials and paper for the enlargement of the Whig have been ordered, and are expected to arrive soon. We propose to publish a sheet as large as our new and great steam press will allow, and, to say the least of it, the largest newspaper ever issued in this end of the State.

We propose, moreover, to throw new life into our large sheet, by attending more or less to every issue that comes out; by increasing the amount of reading matter; and by a vigorous war upon all who aim at inaugurating another rebellion.

The mails are now starting, and new post-masters are going into office in the several counties, and it is the very time to subscribe for a paper. The price will continue \$3 in advance, as it now is.

Another Rebellion.

From the proclamation in this week's Whig it will be seen that the copperheads of Middle and West Tennessee are carrying the torch of sedition through the country in defiance of law, and even with a contempt for law. Indeed we are now to fight the battles of 1861 over again. Up to this date none of the candidates for Congress in the State have taken the oath required by the act to "limit the Elective Franchise," and some of them are openly making war upon it. Some of the Clerks have taken it upon themselves to decide upon the constitutionality of the law, and refuse to open books as the law directs. In some counties these had men who set themselves up as leaders have told the people to hold their elections without any regard to the law. The City Council of Memphis has decided that the law does not apply to the election of city officers, and hence they will or have elected a rebel Mayor and Council. The PEOPLE, as they call themselves, of Stewart county, have held a Convention and nominated a rebel Colonel, who was wounded and paroled, and but recently released from being a prisoner of war. The act to "limit the elective franchise" provides that "the oath" shall be taken by "all candidates for office." Nay, the candidate swears that he will support and defend the amendments and schedule to the constitution, and all acts of the late General Assembly.

The Constitution of the State says, and the Governor has taken an oath to see it enforced, that he, the Governor, "shall take care that the laws shall be faithfully executed." The crisis is upon the State now, and no steps backward will be taken. "Live or die, sink or swim, survive or perish," the Governor will execute the law, if sustained by President Johnson and his military foreign command of Gen. Thomas in Tennessee. No certificates of election will be given to any man, no matter what his vote may have been, who has not himself taken the oath prescribed in the 7th section of the law. And no certificate of election will be given to candidates elected by voters who refused to register, or where books were not opened by Clerks. And without such certificate no man will be admitted to his seat in Congress. Gentlemen had as well understand this matter at once. And traitors who are running for Congress, under the pretense of being Union men, had as well see where they stand. One of them proclaims upon the stump that the State Government is a "log-cabin, round-bottomed, chestnut-barked" vessel, and that Jeff Davis is a better man than either Andrew Johnson or Brownlow—that Lincoln's proclamation is void, and the negroes are still slaves!

Our Platform.

Our abode at the Capital of the State for a few months, and the changes going on in the sentiments and temper of men who have long passed for Union men, and men of unquestioned loyalty, have led some of our old acquaintances to ask where we stand, and to what extent we have changed. That we may be justly credited, or duly credited for our good or bad opinions, and held strictly responsible for what we are, what we hold, and also what we do, we will state our positions in such a way, or so describe the platform upon which we stand, that no one, not even a fool, can misunderstand us.

We are for the Union as it is, and the enforcement of the laws as they are, both State and National, until every rebel lays down his arms, is killed off in battle, or in private, or is hung—until this wicked rebellion is crushed out, and men cease to abuse the Federal authorities, or talk treason even in private life. We are for no compromise with rebels who have been in arms against the Federal Government three or four years, and have only laid down their arms because they were whipped; we are for no truce with rebels, no pardon for pirates, no complicity with thieves, and no parity with murderers. We are for the political party which will stand by the country, sustain the United States Government, and not think of withholding men or means from the President until the Nation has asserted its independence of organized mobs at the South, and in the North, and until the whole world shall see and acknowledge our power to crush out the great conspiracy.

We hold that no man, in any section of the country, North or South, should be permitted to hold office until he has taken an oath that he has never been, written, or said anything against the authority of the Government of the United States, or in any way given aid, comfort or encouragement to its enemies, or to the men waging war against the Government. Being grossly deceived by men in the South, who went into the rebellion, we will never support any man for any office of honor or profit, who was a secessionist, or who aided in the unholy work of oppressing the Union people in the South, or who persistently advocated to prosecution of the war brought on at the South.

Denying the right of secession, we hold that no State has ever been out of the Union, and consequently we deny to Congress the right to regulate the franchise question, holding that each State, after having elected a loyal Legislature, shall say who are loyal voters and who are not; provided that no State shall enact a law on this subject so war with the provisions of the National Constitution.

THE WEATHER.—We need say but little about the weather—it has been speaking for itself for a week past. It has been hotter than at any time since the summer we had the cholera here. The intensity of the heat has been felt by all classes. The thermometer has ranged at 96 in the shade, and would have gone higher had there been room. The general wish is that the weather moderate a little, to prevent fat persons from melting down, and going off into grease!

The Southern Leaders.

For thirty years past the leaders of the Democratic party South have made every election turn upon the slavery issue. They held up the Whig party as favoring the abolition side, and the Democratic party as the only hope of the South. Harrison, Scott, Clay, Taylor, Fillmore and Bell, as they were for the Presidency, were all held up to the world as abolitionists, and enemies to the South and the peculiar institution, while the Democrats were the pro-slavery party, and their candidates were the only men in whose hands the interests of the South would be safe. Every candid reading man in the country recollects these facts, and will bear witness that we correctly state the facts.

For thirty years past these Southern Democratic leaders have sought to terrify the Southern, and irritate the Northern people. This they did in every conceivable way. By denying the right of petition; by forcing the country into a war for the annexation of Texas; by bullying England because of her opposition to slavery; by repeated attempts to force slavery into new territories, where God had given a soil and climate that excluded slavery; by opposing the annexation of California because she excluded slavery; by the insufferable haughtiness of their manners, and the arrogance of their pretensions—they kept the few Northern abolitionists supplied with all the materials they used for agitation. Then, turning to the South, these notorious villains would point to the very agitation they had got up as proof that the North was inimical to the South, and was getting ready for an armed attempt to emancipate the slaves. In connection with all this work of disunion, these Southern Democratic leaders were always harping upon their cherished theory of State rights, State sovereignty, and the right of a State to veto an act of Congress, or to declare herself out of the Union. The conduct of these men caused at the North the formation of the Republican party, that overhauled them in 1860, and since routed them on the field of battle. But they have no sooner surrendered their arms, and gone home upon parole, than they have gone to work to reorganize this same odious, agitating and disorganizing party. As we never did act with them, so we never intend to act with them, and the reason is we know them. We would not start with them on a journey to heaven, feeling assured that before we got far on the way, these men would land us, and all following them, in the infernal regions!

The Future of the Negro.

The great conflict of freedom and right with the question of slavery is over, so far as the tramp of battalions and the clash of arms are concerned. But this has, as we all know, left society in a different state from that in which it was found at the opening of the war. The Government has the darkest upon its hands, and its agents scarcely know what to do with the prize. The Government is in the condition of the man who raffled for the elephant. He won the stake, but did not know what to do with it. Thousands of blacks are liberated, and they find themselves out of homes and property, huddled together in crowds around the cities and towns, brought there by the general prospect of aid and schooling they hear of in the noise and confusion of the times. Among these vast crowds collected around the towns, there is a rush into some school, and a scramble for a book and a slate the negro, for the most part, ignorantly supposing that the admission of one pupil into a school will provide houses, furniture, clothes and provisions for a whole family. The grown ones should be taught to labor, and to earn an honest livelihood, and they should be taught to know that this furnishing of rations by the Government, and this free over schools and uniformed soldiers of their color, will play out with the closing up of the war, and the sober realities of nakedness, hunger and want will follow! Great and untold misery and suffering will follow upon the heels of this *freedom*, for such it is in its practical effects. Teaching the colored people the rudiments of the English language is not all the education they need; this can only benefit the young and rising generation—the grown man and woman will be compelled to labor for a subsistence, and will have no time to spend at school. Put the parents in the way of making an honest living by labor, and they will naturally thereafter seek to educate their children. Their long education in bondage, suffering and oppression has taught many of them to think stealing no crime, and to look upon exemption from labor as the very essence of human enjoyment.

Some of the Northern men in charge of the negro interests know nothing of the negro character, save what they have heard at a distance, and they really need themselves to be educated in this respect before taking charge of the colored population.—Teach them habits of industry, sobriety and strict economy, and help them to secure the wages they are entitled to for their services. Many of them are willing and able to work, and should be encouraged. Take *Knoxville* as an example, and look at the crowds of them on the streets, idle, unemployed, and loafing around. Suffering, abuse and imprisonment is bound to follow all this; and he is the best friend to the colored man who sounds the alarm in time.

Gen. Arnold's Circular.

We have waded through Gen. Arnold's Circular of ten newspaper columns, and in the course of the readings of the General he pitches into everybody in general, and the Governor in particular. The Governor declines turning aside from the important affairs of State to quarrel with any one of the candidates for Congress. If the General is elected, we will take great pleasure in giving him a certificate of election, countersigned by his old friend, the Secretary of State, without which he can't be admitted to a seat.

We differ with the General as to the loyalty of Mr. Randolph. No man in the late Legislature made a better Union record. And in the rebel Legislature, as it was called, Randolph frequently voted alone, in opposition to the outrages proposed by the rebels.

Blood-Thirsty Beauregard.

The following epistle is from the pen of that prince of military rebel sounders, Beauregard, and was addressed to a rebel member of Congress.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Oct. 13, 1862.

Hon. Wm. P. Miles, Richmond, Va.

Has the bill for the execution of abolition prisoners after January next been passed? Do it, and England will be stirred into action. It is high time to proclaim the black flag after that period. Let the execution be with the granite.

G. T. BEAUREGARD.

It was through the influence of such infernal blood-thirsty sounders as this that our brave boys were tortured, starved and murdered by inches in Richmond, Danville, Salisbury, Charleston, Columbia and Andersonville. This *assassination* will have the impudence to apply to the President for a special pardon. He ought to be treated to a special execution!

The Arrest of Kieridge.

The ex-Mon. Emerson Kieridge has been arrested at Columbus, Ky., for making incendiary speeches in Tennessee—denouncing the State Government as bogus, and the National Administration as corrupt. Let him be imprisoned and held there until he learns to behave himself.

Proclamation—By the Governor.

STATE OF TENNESSEE,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Nashville, July 10th, 1865.

WHEREAS, It has been made known to me that in many parts of Middle and Western Tennessee those who have lately been in rebellion against the United States, with their friends and sympathizers, and with hands yet red with the blood of our loyal people, are either openly defying or indirectly setting at naught an important law of the land;

And whereas, it is made the duty of the Governor, by the constitution and his oath of office, "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed";

Therefore, I, WILLIAM G. BROWNLOW, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do proclaim, that the act of the General Assembly, passed June 5th, 1865, entitled "an act to limit the Elective Franchise," having been deliberately passed under an express authority delegated to said General Assembly by the convention of the people of the 9th of January, 1865, which delegation of power was solemnly ratified by the people, and proclaimed by the Military Governor on behalf of the United States, as part of the organic law of the State, is hereby enforced as law, and all persons who shall be guilty of any act or acts of disobedience or resistance to the execution of said law will be declared in rebellion against the State of Tennessee, and will be dealt with as rebels.

And I do proclaim, that no person is entitled to vote at any election in this State, without he shall have first taken and accepted the oath prescribed by said law, and he shall have obtained a certificate of registration, as prescribed by said law, upon such proof in fact made. And that the votes of all persons and of all counties contrary to the strict provisions of said law will be thrown out and not taken into account by the Secretary of State. I do further proclaim, that said law requires that every candidate for office shall take the oath prescribed by the 7th section of said act, and no person is or can be a candidate until he shall have properly taken and subscribed said oath; and I do declare that any person pretending to be a candidate for Congress, or other office, who shall fail to take and subscribe said oath, and file the same in the office of the Secretary of State, on or before the third day of August next, will not be treated as a candidate, and all votes cast for such person will not be taken into account.

And I call upon the civil authorities to arrest and bring to justice all persons who, under the pretense of being candidates for office, or under the color of traveling over the State denouncing and agitating the constitution and the laws of the land, and spreading sedition and a spirit of rebellion.

And I also command and require all Clerks of the County Court, and judges of election, faithfully and strictly to perform, and not evade, the responsible trust committed to them by said law, and I solemnly warn them that they will be held to a strict account for any failure in this respect.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed, at the Department, this 10th day of July, 1865.

By the Governor: WILLIAM G. BROWNLOW.

A. J. FLETCHER, Secretary of State.

The Nashville Press and Times will publish daily, and the Union, Dispatch, Memphis Bulletin, Knoxville Whig, Greenville News Era, and Jonesboro' Flag, weekly, until the election, and present accounts to this office. A. J. FLETCHER, Sec'y. State.

The Suffrage Question.

The great question of our day is the suffrage question. South Carolina never had a republican constitution—all the other States did, and they entered the Union without prescribing color.

Thus the Declaration of Rights in the Constitution of Delaware declared:

"Every freeman having sufficient evidence of permanent common interest, with an attachment to the community, hath a right of suffrage."

The Constitution of Maryland provides:

"All freemen above twenty-one years of age, having a freehold of fifty acres of land in the county in which they offer to vote, and residing therein, and who, having property in this State above the value of thirty pounds current money, and having resided in the county in which they offer to vote one whole year next preceding the election, shall have the right of suffrage in the election of delegates for such county."

The Virginia Declaration of Rights provides:

"All men have sufficient evidence of permanent common interest, with an attachment to the community, have a right of suffrage."

The Constitution of North Carolina contains this provision:

"All freemen of the age of twenty-one years, who have been inhabitants of any one county within the State twelve months immediately preceding the day of any election, and shall have paid public taxes, and shall have been duly qualified and having resided in the county in which they offer to vote one whole year next preceding the election, shall have the right of suffrage in the election of delegates for such county."

The Constitution of Georgia declares that:

"The electors of the members of both branches of the General Assembly shall be citizens and inhabitants of this State, and shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, and have paid tax for the year preceding the election, and shall have resided six months within the county."

So colored men voted in Pennsylvania till 1838; in Connecticut till 1817; in New York on the same footing with the whites till 1826, and since then with property qualification; and in the other Eastern States without hindrance. Also in Maryland till 1818, and in North Carolina and Tennessee till about the same period. It is only when we come to the State of South Carolina, whose people never voted for President, and unless worth ten slaves, or \$10,000, did not vote at all, that we find in the constitution of those days the word white.

The qualifications of an elector shall be every free white man, and no other person," etc.

The Franchise Law.

Several interrogatories are to be propounded to the applicant for registration, by the Clerk of the County Court. The five following questions cover the ground, and an affirmative answer to either of these five, except the first, will entitle the applicant to a certificate of registration, as can be seen by referring to the law:

1. Have you taken the oath of allegiance to the Government of the United States?

2. Did you vote in the Presidential election in November, 1864?

3. Did you vote in the February election, 1865?

4. Did you vote in the March election, 1865?

5. Have you served in the army of the United States and been honorably discharged?

Those who are excluded from the right to vote are found in some one of the nine categories specified in section second of the law, as follows:

1st. Civil or diplomatic officers or agents of the Confederate States.

2d. Those having left Federal or State judicial stations to aid in the rebellion.

3d. Military or naval officers of the Confederate States, above the rank of Captain in the army, or Lieutenant in the navy.

4th. Those who left seats in the National or State Legislatures to aid in the rebellion.

5th. Those who resigned commissions in the United States army or navy, and afterwards voluntarily aided in the rebellion.

6th. Those who have had mal-treated prisoners of war.

7th. Absentees from the United States to aid the rebellion.

8th. Persons holding State offices under the rebel regime.

9th. Persons who left homes in the national lines and went into the Confederacy for the purpose of aiding in the rebellion; or who, for the purpose, fled before the expansion of the national lines.

Persons included in this second section are excluded for fifteen years from the privilege of voting.—We endorse this law as just and right. It is being made an issue between candidates for Congress. The man opposing it is not entitled to the votes of loyal men, and we caution Union men against voting for such men. Send them to Congress, and you send there a set of men who will work for rebels, and against loyal men. Again, we say, guard against men who oppose this Franchise Law. Either they have a bad record themselves, they have relations involved, or they want disloyal votes.

The State Government.

Certain fault-finders and copperheads, who have made war upon the Government of the State under Governor Johnson, are suddenly for his administration of affairs at Washington, because he is opposed to the present State Government. Some claim to represent his views, as they are but recently from Washington. This is all stuff, and all such pretensions badly misrepresent the President. The Convention that amended the Constitution was composed of 625 delegates, and all but two counties in the State were represented. It was an intelligent body of substantial men. No man in that Convention took a deeper interest in what was doing than did Governor Johnson, and no man in it was better pleased with its action. It continued its session all the week. Governor Johnson spoke to the Convention, by request, the middle of the week, and again the last night of the session. His speeches were reported in full, and correctly, by the Nashville papers. In his speech the night of the 12th of January, the third day of the Convention, he said—and let those candidates running for Congress, seeking to place President Johnson in false position—read this extract in their speeches:

What wrong is there in a primary meeting of the people proposing amendments to the Constitution? Take any individual and lock him up in one of these rooms, and then let him draw up two or three amendments to the Constitution. If the people should do so, and ratify the amendments, it would be consonant to the genius of the government to incorporate them with the Constitution. True, it is to do the people ratify the amendments? Now if we call a convention, which will cause delay, will be expensive, and vexatious, will that body refuse to submit its work to the people? If any man favors this, he is seeking to do something in violation of the interest of the people.

Here is an intelligent body, highly respectable in talent and numbers; can it not draft amendments and submit them to the people? You, as a part of the people, may mature your plans and submit them to the people.

There are various modes, but I am for the shortest and simplest plan which is the best. A Convention is also objectionable on the score of economy, which is almost an obsolete term. If there ever was a people who wanted it put in practice, we are that people. To use an expression of the furnaces, we are working our furnace on its running stock. If there be two ways of doing the same thing, and you can save a hundred thousand dollars or so by taking the shortest, take it.

Are you not the people, or a portion of them? Is this not a primary meeting of the people? Talk of violating constitutional rights. Why how much law and constitution have you got now? In the absence of both, if you act irregularly, who dare say against it? Where is your law now? Lincoln may be charged with irregularity, but if he saves the Government by it who can find fault? You can place your hands on your bosoms and satisfy your conscience, and all the people will say Amen? I may refer to the case of the Roman Consul, used by Mirabeau before the French Assembly, to illustrate preserving the State from a dangerous conspiracy, by the Consul had to overstep the law. Afterwards, when he appeared before the tribunes, one of them, an enemy of his, wishing to embarrass him, said:—"Will you swear that you have observed the law?" The Consul replied:—"I swear that I have saved the Republic!"

He swore that he had observed the law, but that he had saved the Republic. May we not say, claim, after having discharged your duty when you go home, "We have saved the State?"

Action of the Methodist Bishops.

The Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church have had their meeting at Erie, Pennsylvania, and we proceed to lay before the public that portion of their doings which interests the public. The action of the Bishops that interests us and the whole country is in regard to the reconstruction of the Church. We rejoice that their position is so clearly defined, and we are particularly pleased that so generous an invitation is given to all bodies of Methodists to unite with the old body in one common effort to spread the kingdom of God. Let our friends read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the following, the action of the Bishops, held in connection with Drs. Darbin and Harris, Missionary Secretaries of the Board:

1. Resolved, That as bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, we rejoice at the overthrow of the terrible rebellion, which threatened our National existence, and we render thanksgiving to Almighty God for his signal mercies to our country.

2. Resolved, That while we reverently bow under the chastening hand of God, we deeply lament the death of President Lincoln by the hand of an assassin, and we tender to President Johnson, who succeeds to the chair of Chief Magistrate of the Union, our confidence and hearty support in such measures as shall restore harmony to our Union, give equal rights to all, and honorably preserve peace with all nations.

3. Resolved, That we recognize the governing hand of God in so controlling the National conflict as to cause the destruction of slavery throughout the rebellious States.

4. Resolved, That in the removal of the great cause which led to the separation from us, of both the Wesleyan Methodist of this country, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, has passed away, and we trust the day is not far distant when there shall be but one organization which shall embrace the whole Methodist family in the United States.

5. Resolved, Especially would we rejoice if there could be a general union of all Methodists who profess the Christian faith, and are loyal to the Government, and who are opposed to the evil of slavery, in the approaching Centenary of Methodism, which occurs in 1868.

6. Resolved, That we, as officers of the Church, have no authority to originate any plans of union, and are bound to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Discipline and the directions of the General Conference.

7. Resolved, We hereby extend a cordial welcome to all ministers and members of whatever branch of Methodism, who will unite with us on the basis of our loyal and anti-slavery Discipline; and we declare our desire to labor in whatever way we are able to promote the unity and prosperity of our common cause.

8. Resolved, That we will occupy, so far as practicable, those fields in the Southern States, which may be opened to us, and which give promise of success, and that our mission shall be alike to the white and colored population.

9. Resolved, That to our loyal brethren in the South who look to a union with us, we declare, that in accordance with the directions of our General Conference, we shall seek, in a spirit of Christian charity, to send such ministers from time to time as shall be necessary to care for the people, irrespective of color, who shall place themselves under our charge, and to provide for such ministers as shall be received by our Annual Conference.

D. W. CLARK,
Secretary of the Board.

The Conference was conducted with the utmost good feeling throughout, and the results are destined to have a momentous bearing upon the future action and welfare of the Church.

The ministers of the Church South, as well as its members, now see that they are invited back, and are welcome to return whenever they are ready to take upon themselves the reasonable obligations imposed by the necessities of the times, and the obligations required were of the State governments, under which they expect to live and labor. If ministers of the Church South have the slightest disposition to be at peace, and to unite with the old Church, from which they separated in May, 1844, on account of slavery, they have the opportunity of doing so now, and of promoting peace and good will in all our church borders.

It is a well known fact that the separation of the Methodist Church in 1844 was the entering wedge to the split in the Union which culminated in 1861, and resulted in all this evil now afflicting the land. And it is a part of the history of the times that Bishop Cooper, of South Carolina, on his way to the General Conference of 1844, to draw up two whole days roomed with John C. Calhoun, arranging the details. The Bishop, a Methodist, and the Senator, a Presbyterian, were made wondrous kind by their sympathy in favor of a dissolution of the Union. Therefore, Southern ministers, seeing that they have been used by designing politicians in this wicked work, ought to be thoroughly ashamed of their names as a Southern Church, and cast it off entirely, and return to the church from which they have so widely departed.

No offer is made to the Church South, nor is there any assault upon her. The Bishops, with a just sense of responsibility, kindly invite, and promise to welcome to their embrace, all Methodists who agree with them in doctrine and discipline. The Methodist Episcopal Church intends to occupy the whole territory South, as Providence may open the way, and thus supply loyal men with legal preaching. If a portion of the ministers South, through bitterness, disloyalty and disappointed ambition, seek to build up the old pro-slavery rebel organization, why, upon their heads be the consequences. The way is open now, without disclaimer, for their return—they may come or stay where they are, as their tastes and inclinations may suggest. No other invitation will be given—none other ought to be given. Let *federalists* at least be willing to come half way.

Our Debt—France and England.

We hope that Congress will have the wisdom and tact to make France and England help pay our National debt. Let us readjust our import duties so as to make it more profitable for the Lyons weavers and the Manchester spinners to pack up their looms and come to America, than to manufacture where they are and squeeze through our numerous custom-houses. Our idea is this: Diffuse the burden of the large interest on our National debt, abroad as well as at home, by imposing import duties upon products that England and France have got to buy of us in spite of themselves—on our cotton, tobacco, petroleum and breadstuffs.—There will be international justice as well as political economy in summoning the two malicious and two-faced nations which armed, clothed and fed the rebellion, lent it money, and built, manned, supplied and refitted the piratical steamers which swept the commerce of the United States for four years from all seas, to help pay the debt which they helped to create. They encouraged the rebellion, and were only kept from intervention by fear of a great Government whose power they could see, and did not care to feel.

The summons we propose through the imposition of import duties, they will have to obey—there is no escape from it. England and France can't help themselves. They have got to have our four great staples—and they have got to pay our prices for them. We may be told that the Constitution of the United States forbids "export duties," but we only use the words to convey our idea of what we propose. *Export duties* of sufficient amount should be levied on these staples in the States where produced. They would then carry with them the taxes in going abroad.

The rebels, in copying and improving upon the American Constitution, omitted the clause forbidding "export duties," evidently intending to make England and France pay their war debt and the expense of establishing and maintaining their Confederacy, out of taxes on cotton and tobacco they would have to buy from the Confederacy. The policy of export duties upon what England and France shall get from us, is so manifestly just, that we would propose an amendment to the Constitution in this regard, but for the fact that such amendment can be obviated through our excise system. Our debt, if met in this way, will soon be wiped out.—The English have a greater load to carry than we have, both in the way of principal and interest, and only half our population and certainly with less than half of our energy and resources. If, therefore, England can drag along, as we know she can and does, under her great burden, America can carry her load and play half the time.

We propose, in a word, to organize immigration to this country from Europe—to remove to this country the cotton manufacturers of England, and the silk and muslin manufacturers of France—and the iron and cutlery manufacturers of England, Sweden and Germany—to lift out of the mines and bring to this country a large portion of the mining population of Europe and set it down in these once rebel States, literally crowded with gold, silver, copper, iron, coal, lead, tin, salt, petroleum, zinc, gypsum and marble. Foreign laborers and artisans know this is the greatest country in the world, and they are eager to come and settle here.

Suicide of a Secessionist.

The Richmond Republic, of a recent date, says:

On Saturday last Mr. Edmund Ruffin, a very distinguished agriculturist of Virginia, committed suicide at his residence near Mathews Depot, on the Richmond and Danville Railroad. He retired to his chamber at an early hour in the morning, and, taking a seat in a chair, took a gun loaded with shot and slugs, and placing the muzzle to his mouth, discharged the piece by pushing the trigger with a stick. The upper portion of his head was entirely blown off. In a diary of his was found a memorandum, stating that he could never live under the United States Government, and took death in preference. In the same memorandum he said that he would have committed the deed on the 9th of April, (the day General Lee surrendered,) but was prevented by the presence of visitors in his house. Mr. Ruffin was well known in Virginia by his efforts in behalf of agriculture in the State, and was once editor, we believe, of the Southern Planter. He was well known throughout the country during the first of the war, from the order with which he embraced the Confederate cause, and particularly from the fact that he was the man who fired the first gun at Fort Sumter, when Gen. Beauregard bombarded that work in 1861. He was over seventy years of age.

We knew Mr. Ruffin well, and we have met him on many occasions. Before the rebellion we spent several weeks in his company at the White Sulphur Springs, in Greenbrier, Virginia. He was the chief of rebels, and has labored for years to destroy the Government. Failing in his work, like Judas Iscariot, he put an end to his career. The worst act of his life was that of firing upon Fort Sumter—his last and most patriotic act was that of blowing out his own brains!

The National Debt.

The entire debt of the United States is officially reported at TWENTY-SIX HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIVE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS. The annual interest, in coin and currency, is over ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FOUR MILLIONS. We are not among those who are alarmed at these huge figures. We consider that this National debt, by wise legislation, may be made a National blessing. Let Congress take the proper course, and this debt will be converted into public wealth, political union, protection of industry, a sure basis for a national paper currency, and the orphans and widows' saving fund of the nation.

The five great powers of the world now have each a permanent national debt, and the interest paid by them is as follows: France pays \$132,360,000; Austria pays \$75,100,000; Russia pays \$27,100,000; and Great Britain pays \$127,364,548.—The British debt is the great debt of the world, and yet British Consols are equivalent, practically, to British guineas. Why is this? Because the British promise to pay is backed up by the most vigilant and thorough system of taxation known to the world, for the enforcement of which the whole power of the government, military and civil, is pledged. Let the United States profit by the example of Great Britain in this respect.

Bramlette on Negro Equality.

Gov. Bramlette, in his late speech at Louisville, made the following sensible remarks on the subject of negro equality:

But they are terribly frightened at what they call negro equality. Well, I have no uneasiness on that subject. I don't know but they may have grounds for it. They may have grounds to believe a free negro is equal to them, and they may be afraid of it. But I have been among free negroes all my life and never saw any thing like this equality of which there is so much fear in certain quarters. And I believe the great body of the people have no reason to be frightened on that subject.

But if it were true, as they say, that it is the intention of a certain political party to use the second clause to bring about negro equality, it would be impossible for them to do it, such a thing being to our social relations, and society regulates our social relations—not law. Society regulates it, and until you can educate your people to be prepared for a thing of that character, it never can take place by any act of legal process. Law can not do it, for law can not establish the social relations between free negro and equal to them, and they may be afraid of it. But I have been among free negroes all my life and never saw any thing like this equality of which there is so much fear in certain quarters. And I believe the great body of the people have no reason to be frightened on that subject.

Slavery no Longer Local.

Gov. Bramlette, recently at Louisville, made a speech in favor of abolishing slavery, in which he used this strong and telling language on the subject of the local nature of slavery:

By the war, the whole relation of slavery to the Government has been